

Central Utah Project  
in  
Strawberry Valley

Water Hollow Tunnel was started 1974 or 1975 and completed Fall 19 .

It is 13' internal diameter and made by ~~mole~~ <sup>and lined with</sup> cement.

I (Dr. R Raymond Green) with Curran who was the Certified First Aid man. He took care of many minor injuries and I was his back-up man. He took care of many minor injuries and I was his back-up for more serious injuries.

The worst accident was when one man got in front of the "Mole" during down time, to lubricate parts.

Someone got to the controls and started up the "Mole" and ground this maintenance man clear through the "Mole" and out on the gantry endless belt behind.

It became my job to gather the body parts: head, liver, arms, legs, etc and assemble them and investigate this horrible accident.

The managing company on this project was: \_\_\_\_\_



PURPOSE

U.S.

1982-3  
Strauberry  
Tunnel  
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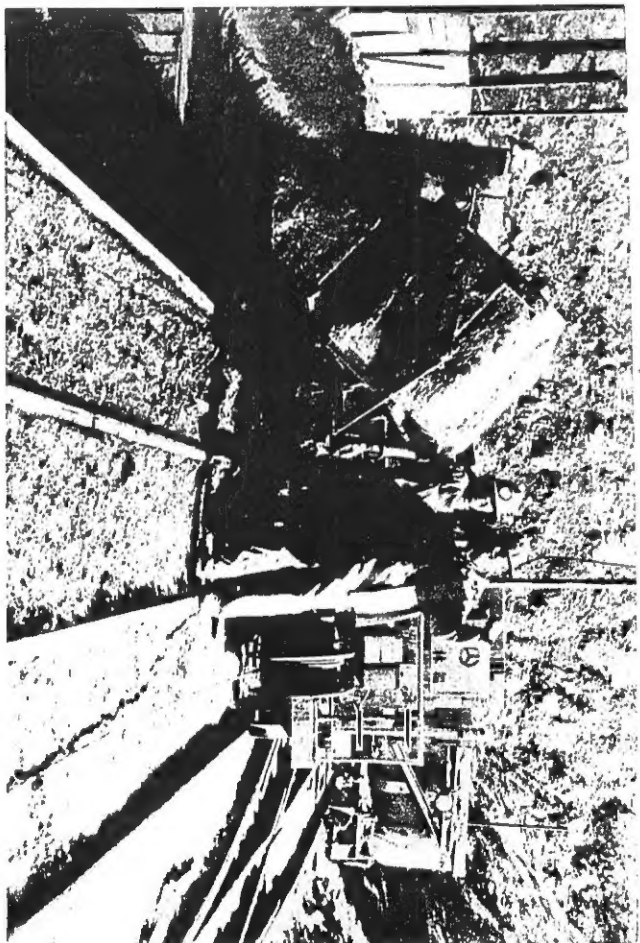
UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

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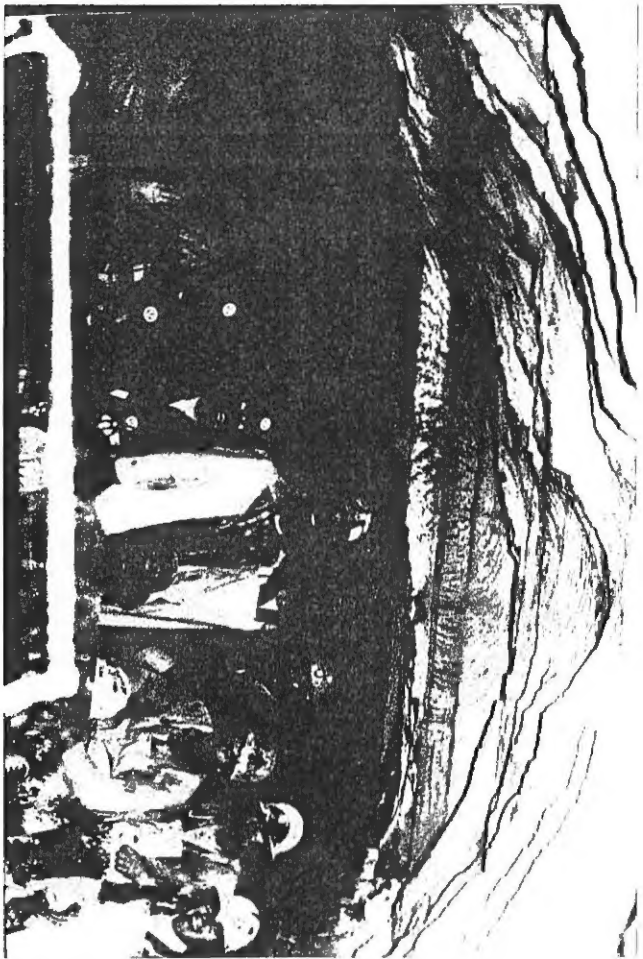


Holing thru on Strauberry Tunnel  
1982-3 Jim Smith = "brakie" Dan Tucker =  
of Ariz. Motorman

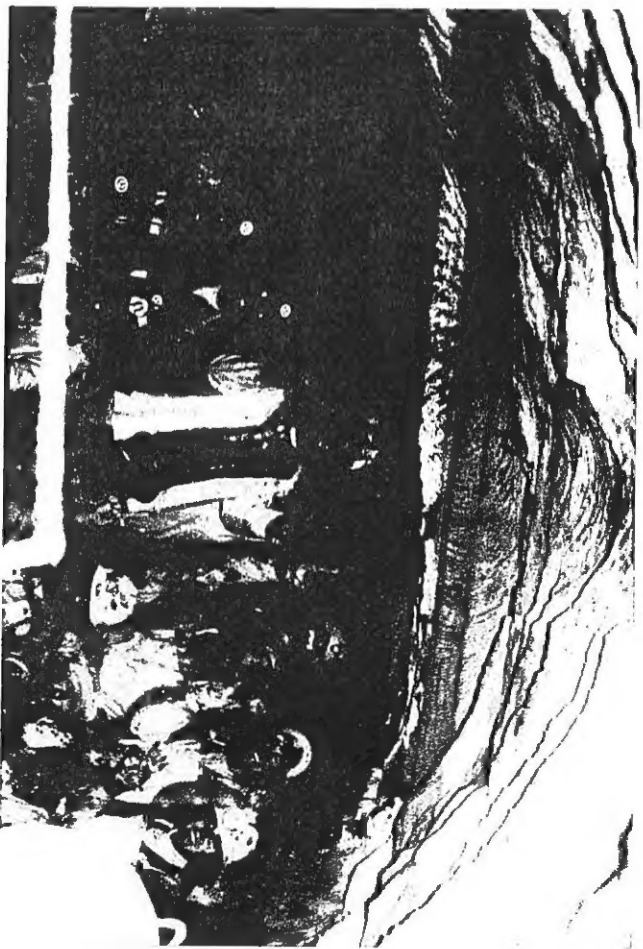




L to R: Supt Reniger, Bailey =  
miner, and Mike Brown = "Header" operator  
"Helling Through".



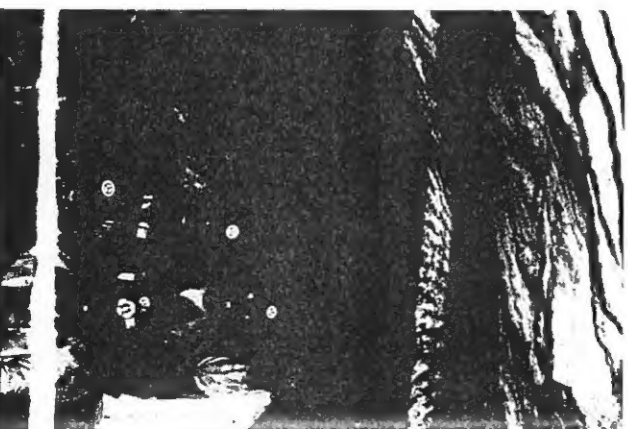
Successful "Hole - Thru" 1982 - Strawberry  
Tunnel.





L to R: Supt Reniger, Bailey =  
miner, and Mike Brown = "Header" operator  
"Holing Through"

Successful "Hole  
Tunnel"





Strawberry

Strawberry

# Strawberry Cabin Owners

## Reminded of July Deadline

Wave 31 May 1984

The remaining 600 cabins and trailer owners at Strawberry Reservoir recently received letters from the Bureau of Reclamation that reminded them of the need to move their property from the reservoir shoreline by July 1, 1984, it was announced today by Upper Colorado Regional Director Clifford Barrett.

All personal property or improvements remaining at the reservoir after July 1, 1984, will be considered abandoned and will be disposed of by a clearing contractor. Clearing operations are scheduled to begin July 2, 1984, with completion scheduled by October 10, 1984.

To assist the remaining cabin and trailer owners in filing claims for moving expense, the Strawberry Relocation Office of Reclamation will reopen on June 1, 1984. The relocation office is to be located in a temporary trailer along the west side road approximately one-fourth of a mile south of the turnoff from U.S. Highway 40. Office hours will be from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., 7 days a week.

Beginning June 1, 1984, the Strawberry Water Users Association will no longer collect fees at Strawberry Reservoir. On that date, the Uinta National Forest will assume administration of recreation activities around the

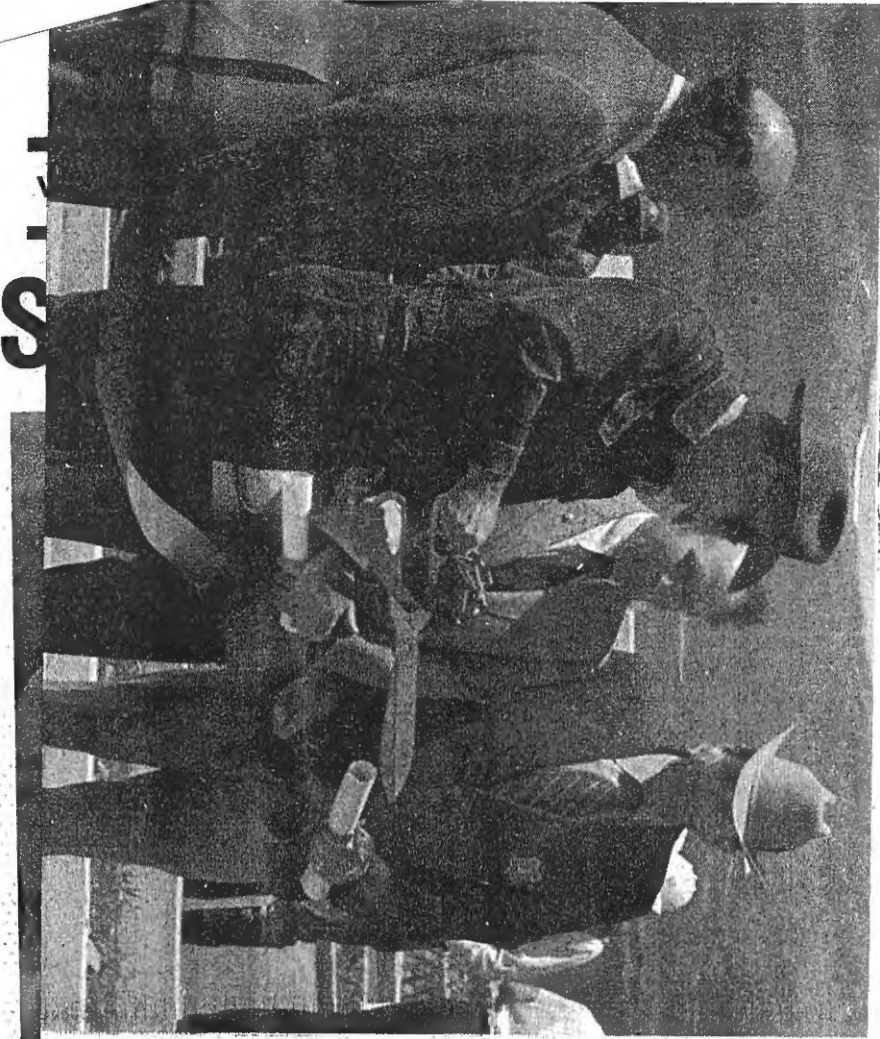
reservoir. A restaurant, store, marina, and boat storage facilities

located at Strawberry Bay will be operated by a private concessionaire.

New public recreational facilities provided by the Bureau of Reclamation include campgrounds, day use areas, shelters, tables, grills, fish cleaning stations, a sewage collection and treatment system, and a water distribution system. No fee will be charged for the use of the day use facilities or boat ramps. The fee for overnight camping units will be \$5. per night. The fee for senior citizens 62 years of age or older who possess Golden Age Passports will be one-half of the regular rate. Golden Age Passports are available at all U.S. Forest Service offices.

A ceremony to dedicate the new public recreation facilities and to turn over administration to the Forest Service has been scheduled at Strawberry Reservoir for Friday, June 1, 1984.

# Strawberry Opening Conducted by Governor



## STRAWBERRY RESERVOIR—

It was a spectacular occasion when the Governor, Scott Matheson, cut the ribbon opening the new Strawberry Bay Marina. It is a new start of a new era on Strawberry.

The grand opening of the Bureau of Reclamation's \$25 million Strawberry Reservoir Recreation Area on June 1, marked the official transfer of management of services from the agency which built the reservoir and recreation facilities, the Bureau of Reclamation, to the agency which will operate the facilities, the Forest Service.

"We consider the transfer to be the finest example of a resource agency and a development agency working together in an effort to foster greater interagency cooperation," Reclamation Regional Director Clifford Barrett stated.

Strawberry Bay Campground is one of two major recreation areas constructed by reclamation around Strawberry Reservoir. While Soldier Creek Recreation area on the east has been completed,

Strawberry Bay on the west is nearing completion and will be finished later this year.

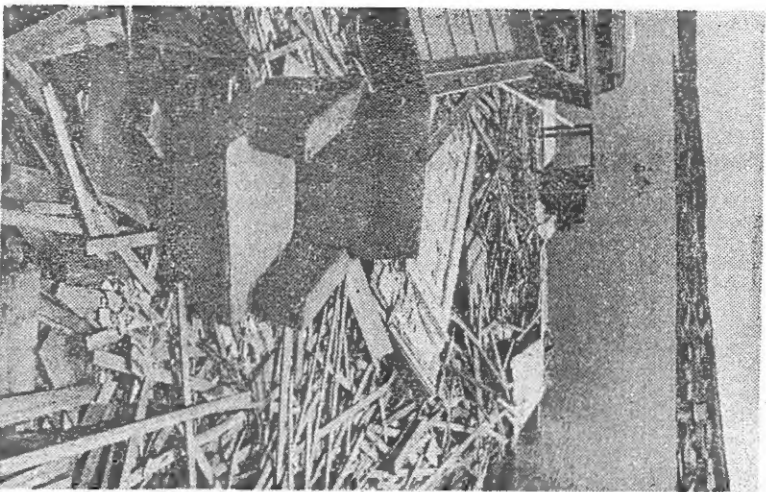
Two major camping loops, a day use area, fisherman access area, and boat ramp complex at Strawberry Bay will be available for opening day use.

Facilities at both major recreation areas include campgrounds and day use areas, with tables, shelters, fire circles with grills, water hydrants, restrooms, sanitary dump stations, and fish cleaning stations. There are also large boat ramps at each site with courtesy docks. A new restaurant, store, marina, and boat storage facility, located at Strawberry Bay, will be operated by a private concessionaire and will be open for business during the ceremony.

Preparations are currently being made by the Uinta National Forest to provide temporary marina facilities at Soldier Creek, with permanent facilities to be installed in the future. Aspen Grove Campground provides 23 units. Chicken Creek East Day Use Area,

Gov. Scott M  
Strawberry Ba  
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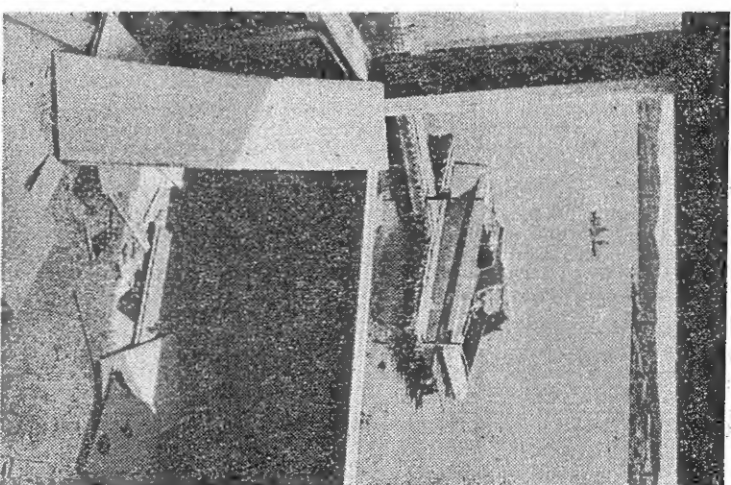
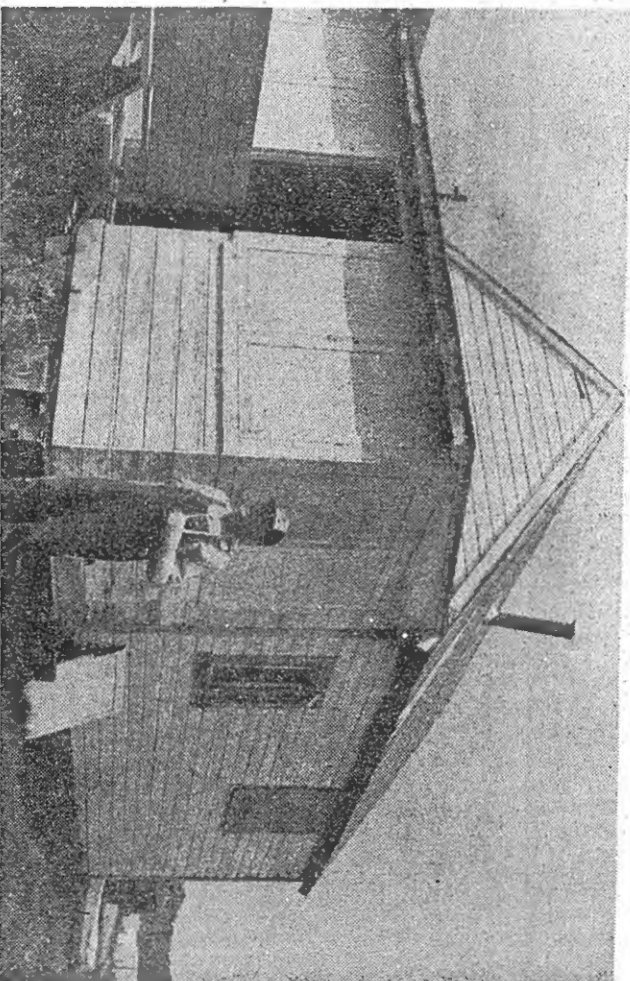


An old chair sits atop rubble that weeks ago used to be a cabin for Strawberry visitors.

**By Ray Grass**  
Deseret News sports writer

**S**TRAWBERRY RESERVOIR — Henry Day sat on the small wooden porch of his frame cabin, his feet on the ground, his elbows on his knees and his hands clasped, indifferent to what was going on around him.

## Strawberry villages will soon be nothing more than part of fishing lore



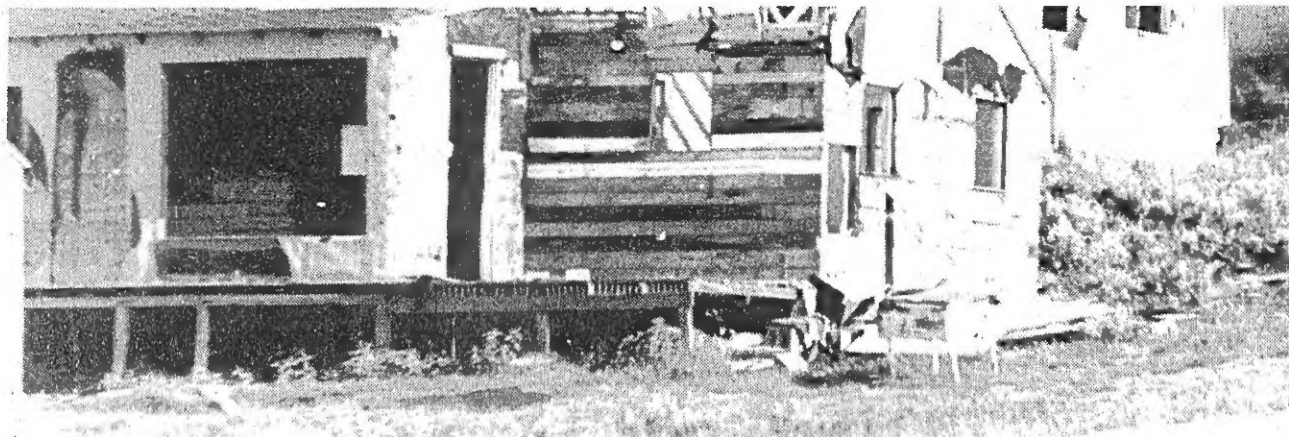
The lake-front view from this gutted cabin will be permanently gone after July 1 deadline.

Elmo Court of Mapleton, his arm in a sling, was there to supervise the taking apart of his cabin.

"See this," he said as he touched the corner of the building, then walked along the outside of a weathered, gray wall and tapped it in the center. "This section used to be the railroad house in Thistle. My father-in-law, Ed Hutton, he's 88 now, moved it here. Later we added a bedroom on the back.

"It's a sad thing. We've had some good times. Our family used it a lot. We've had a lot of good years here. We knew





The cabins of the boat camps are being torn down as the US Forest Service takes over the management of Strawberry Reservoir. BOR officials have contracted

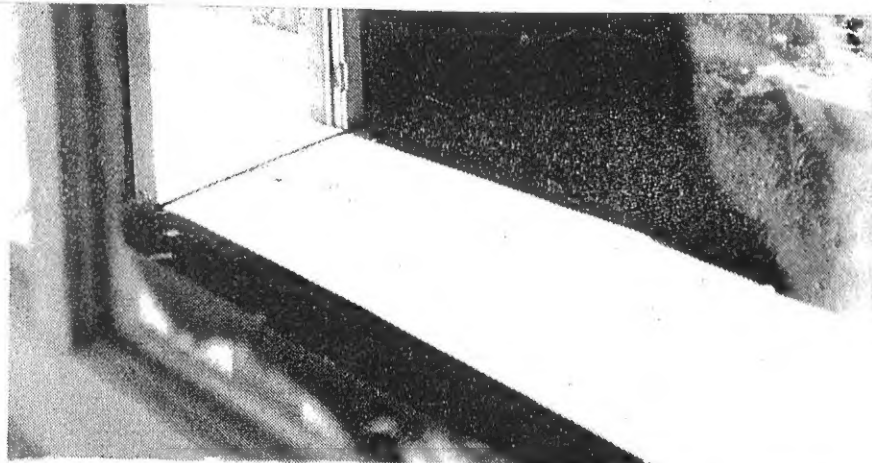
with the cabin owners to remove the abandoned remains.



Once busy with activities, the cabins along the reservoir are now abandoned and left to be destroyed. These cabin owners have been living at the same cabin

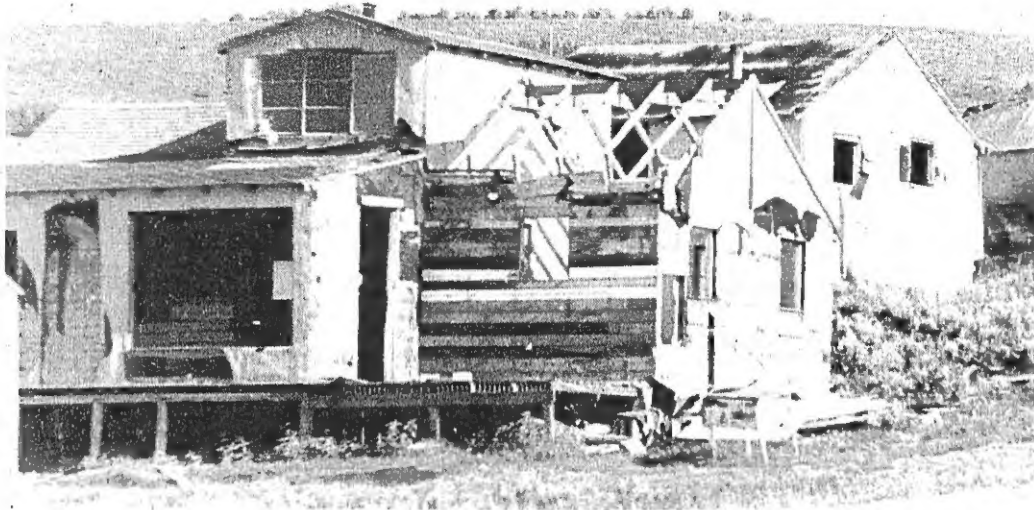
for the past 12 summers. Others have been here even longer.

stood will be replaced.



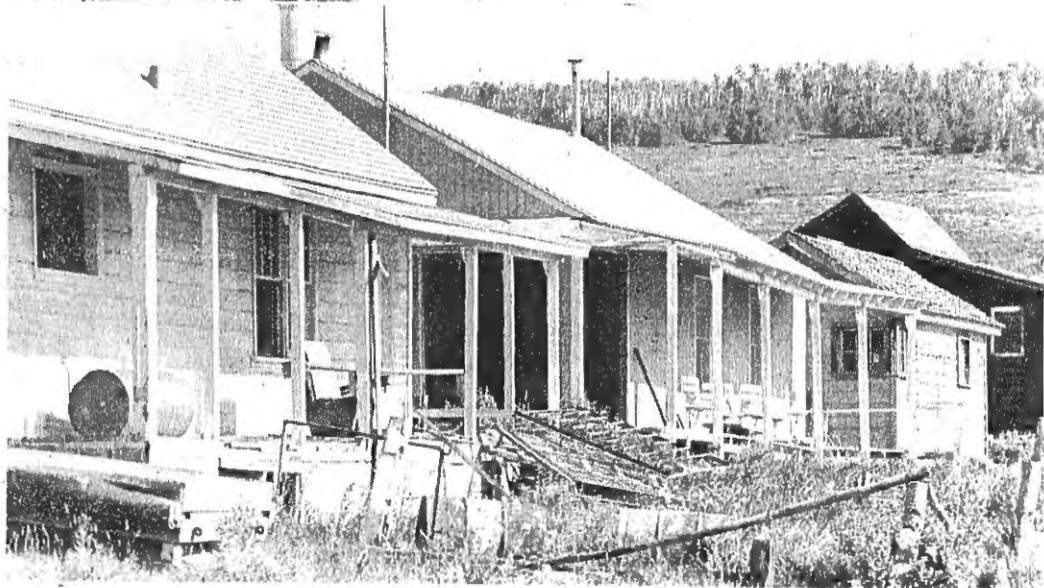
Looking through a broken window, the cabins have been vandalized already, many of the owners took what they wanted and have left the rest for the government to reposes.





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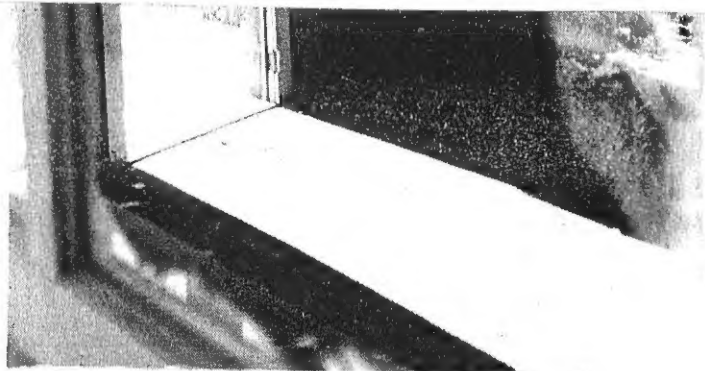
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STOOD WITH US FOREVER.



Looking through a broken window, the cabins have been vandalized already, many of the owners took what they wanted and have left the rest for the government to reposes.

# Dam breach will make 2 reservoirs 1

*Des News 3 June 1985*

Workmen are breaching the old Strawberry Dam and mixing water from the old reservoir with the new body of water backing up behind the Soldier Creek Dam.

When the breach is finished later this summer, the two reservoirs will be one huge reservoir, Bureau of Reclamation officials say.

Soldier Creek Dam was built in the early 1970s as part of the Bonneville Unit of the Central Utah Project. But chief geologist Mike Deming of the bureau's Duchesne office said the new reservoir didn't start filling until three years ago. The Strawberry Tunnel had to be completed and other work finished before water could be diverted to the new reservoir, he said.

Becho Inc., Salt Lake City, is the contractor on the \$466,000 breaching project. Besides cutting out most of the old earthen dam, Becho also will remove the old Indian Creek dike just northwest of the old dam.

The new reservoir's water is at 7,563 feet above sea level and rising. The water is only several feet below the old dam's top.

Engineers have drilled holes in the concrete core wall of the old dam and blasted the concrete apart, Deming said. Now a large dredge is at work, pulling the earth and concrete blocks away.

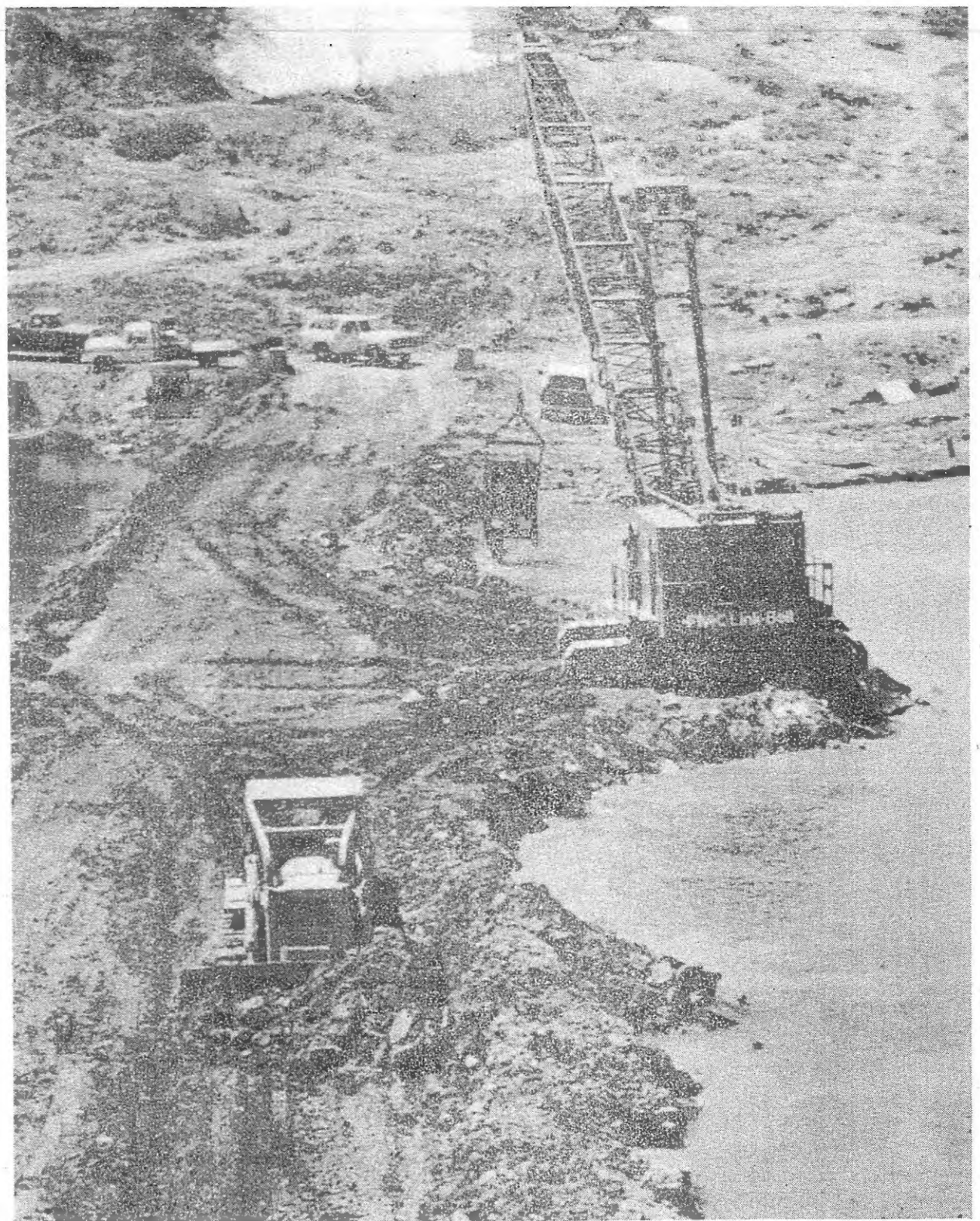
Ultimately, a large hole will be cut in the old dam, and boaters will be able to motor into and out of the new reservoir. The enlarged Strawberry Reservoir's water level will top out at 7,605 feet, and the old dam then will be 40 feet under water.

But part of the old dam is being removed to allow boaters to move freely between the two water bodies and to get rid of debris that could later be hazardous.

The old dam, finished in 1912, is 500 feet wide. The breach will be 240 feet wide and go down 50 feet.

Frank Hunter, bureau engineer for the project, warned that boaters shouldn't attempt to go through the breach until it is officially opened later this summer. Even though it may appear there's room to get through, there could be underwater debris not visible.

Becho Inc. machinery is being used to rip hole in the 72-year-old Strawberry Dam. Breach will be wide enough for boats to pass between two reservoirs.

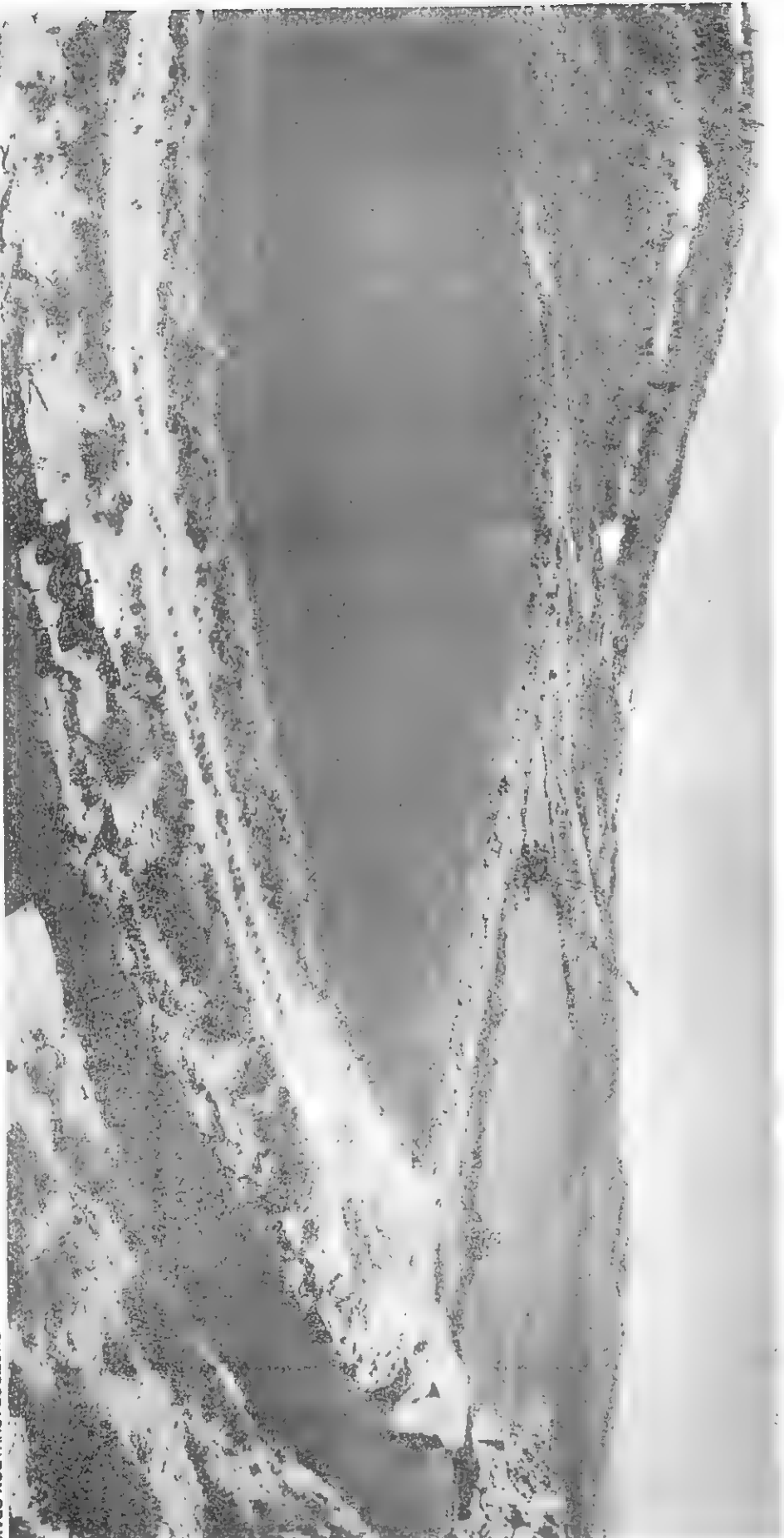


## DESERT NEWS

Central

Business/B4-B5  
Sports/B6-B9  
Deaths/B11

# Utah



PHOTOGRAPHY/ DON GRAY

Water level in reservoir is 7,563 feet above sea level — just below top of old dam. Enlarged reservoir's water level will top out at 7,605



Central Utah Project  
in  
Strawberry Valley

The Upper Stillwater section of this project was started in Spring of 1984 and completed in November 1987.

Steven Curran, son of Curran was an EMT on this job and Pat Robinson was the nurse on the project.

E. L. Pittman was one of the engineers.

The managing company on this project was: Harrison Western.

# Strawberry Water Users seeking to retain control of land

By Steve Fidel  
Deseret News staff writer

OREM — Some 30,880 acres of land surrounding Strawberry Reservoir has been controlled by the Strawberry Water Users Association since 1910, and the association doesn't want that to change.

A bill proposed in 1986 by Rep. Howard Nielson, R-Utah, would have changed the administrative jurisdiction of the land from the Interior Department to the Agriculture Department. The bill got House approval but was never introduced into the Senate because of resistance from the water users association, said Nielson aide Ron Crittendon.

That bill is now dead, but the water users association believes the issue has not been put to rest, and this week solicited the support of the Central Utah Water Conservancy District in opposing the administrative change.

The conservancy district has taken the re-

quest under advisement. The conservancy district is the local sponsor for the Central Utah Project, into which the Strawberry Valley project has been incorporated.

Mill Theobald, manager of the water users association, said the association's board decided Wednesday to take action to promote its gaining title to the land, something he believes wouldn't happen if the land went from Bureau of Reclamation control under the Department of Interior to the U.S. Forest Service under the Department of Agriculture.

"Strawberry proposes to acquire title to the remaining Strawberry Valley Project lands, and the proposed transfer would frustrate or inhibit the transfer of title to Strawberry from the United States," said a statement. Theobald delivered to the conservancy district board Thursday.

The statement also said such a transfer would violate the contract the association has with the Bureau of Reclamation.

While Nielson's bill is dead, Crittendon said another bill — either the same as the last one or similar to it — is still a possibility.

While the BOR is designated as a water project builder, it is not authorized to manage federal lands or facilities as the Forest Service is. Transferring the land to the Forest Service would facilitate the policies of both federal agencies in continuance of a 1962 interim management agreement between the BOR and the Forest Service.

While the water users association was meeting Wednesday, Nielson was meeting with a group of about 80 members of the Utah Wildlife Leadership Coalition who want the federal land declared public domain.

"The ground is public ground anyway," said Mike Beck, a member of the Utah Wildlife Federation. "We don't want to see the Strawberry Water Users Association gain title. The second thing we don't want them to do is have any management controls. They've already mismanaged it," he said.

The original 1910 agreement the water users association had with the federal government when the Strawberry Valley Project was initiated declared the association would gain title to the land once 51 percent of the cost of building the transbasin water storage project was repaid to the federal treasury. But that contract was renegotiated in 1940 after the association fell behind in its payments, Crittendon said. The new contract did not guarantee title to the land would eventually go to the water users association.

Many aspects of the water users' contract with the BOR have been unclear for a number of years, Nielson put language in his bill, at the water users' request, that would have protected the association's contract rights while not guaranteeing them title to the land, Crittendon said.

"The indication has always been that someday those lands will be transferred to the water users," Theobald said.

He said the 1940 contract gave the water users association the right to ask Congress for the land while not making any guarantees. Individual stockholders have had bad experiences with the Forest Service, giving the association a bad feeling about its chances of gaining title if the land is under Forest Service control.

"We've had some bad feelings and unjust dealings with the Forest Service in previous years," he said.

Theobald also doesn't understand why the sportsmen are haunting the association. "People are hammering us saying, 'We don't want Strawberry managing those lands.' No matter what happens, our (management) contract with the government will still be in effect.

The association no longer manages the shoreline but controls grazing lands away from the reservoir, he said.

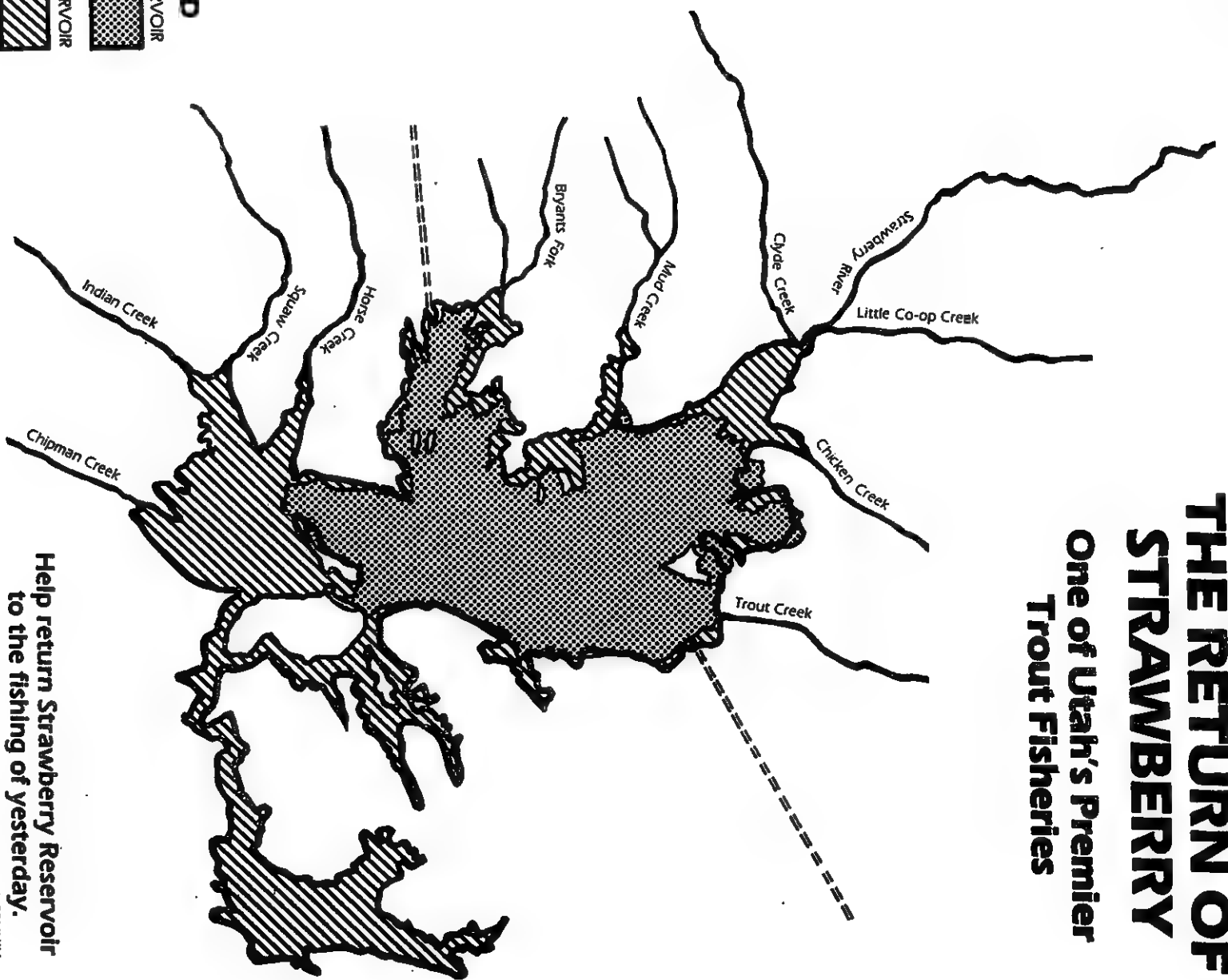
# THE RETURN OF STRAWBERRY

One of Utah's Premier  
Trout Fisheries

**LEGEND**

OLD RESERVOIR

NEW RESERVOIR

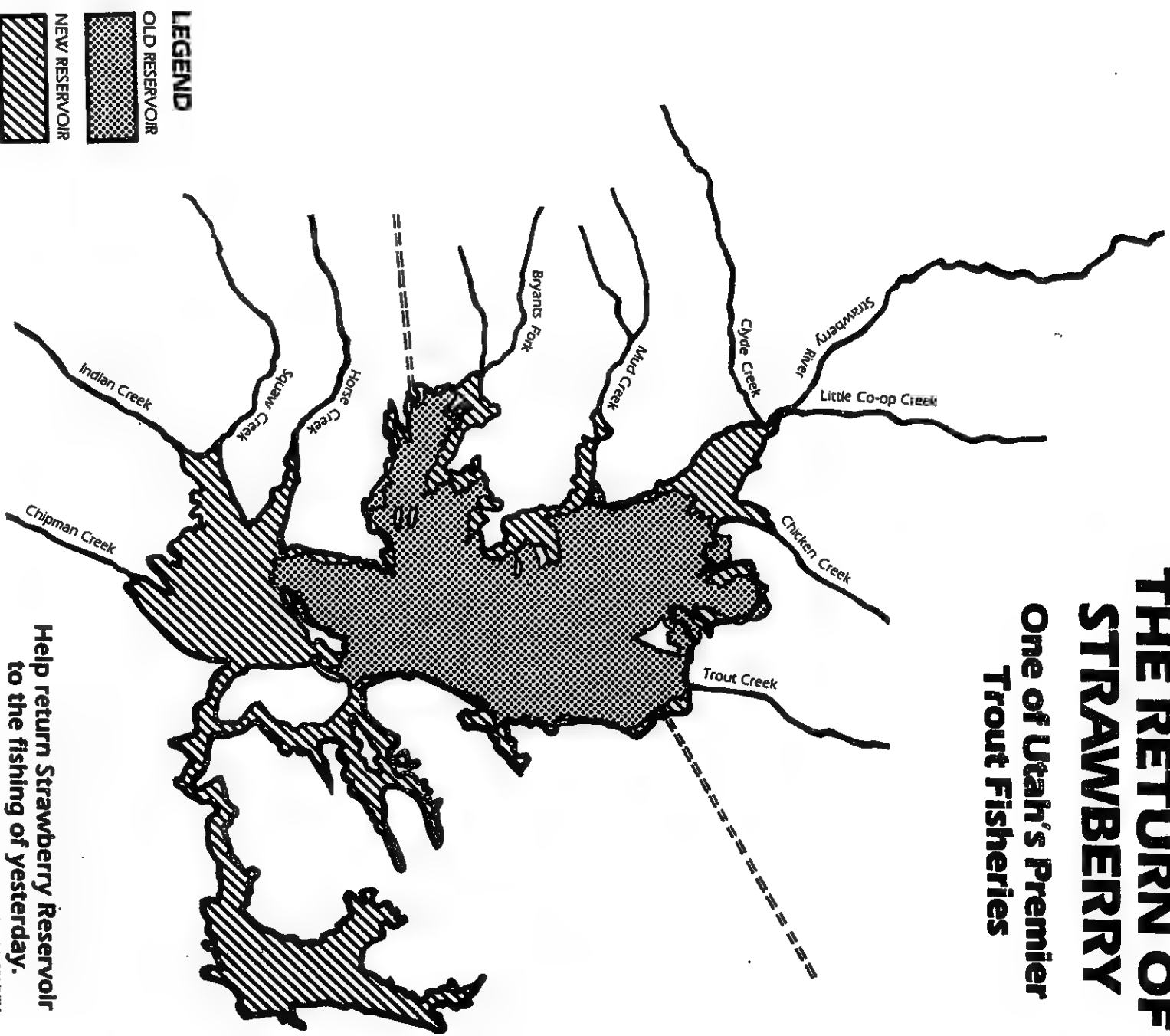


Help return Strawberry Reservoir  
to the fishing of yesterday.



# THE RETURN OF STRAWBERRY

One of Utah's Premier  
Trout Fisheries



Help return Strawberry Reservoir  
to the fishing of yesterday.

# Control of Strawberry to Forestry

2-5-88  
WASHINGTON — After eight months of negotiations, the Bureau of Reclamation has agreed to give the U.S. Forest Service jurisdiction over the Strawberry Valley Project lands, Utah lawmakers announced Thursday.

Calling it "a historic agreement," Utah delegation members said the agreement "offers a real hope of balancing livestock grazing, environmental and recreational values with a true win-win-win approach."

The agreement's "principal aim is to enhance the scenic and recreational values of the area while maintaining public access as well as grazing," officials said.

The breakthrough was announced by Reps. Howard Nielson, Jim Hansen, both R-Utah; Wayne Owens, D-Utah; and Sens. Jake Garn, and Orrin Hatch, both R-Utah.

Negotiators agreed the Bureau of Reclamation will transfer its administrative jurisdiction over Strawberry Valley Project lands to the forest service once a debate over Strawberry Water Users Associations' contractual rights is settled.

The agreement only affects land surrounding the Strawberry Reservoir and does not involve the Reclamation Bureau's jurisdiction over the lake or Soldier Creek Dam.

Members of the delegation said they will be introducing legislation making the "agreement-in-principle" law. "Although some difficulties may be anticipated in the process, we are committed to moving the legislation through the Congress," lawmakers said in a joint statement released today.

(See STRAWBERRY, Page 1)

## STRAWBERRY:

2-5-88  
(Continued from Page 1)

Strawberry Reservoir was built to provide water for Utah County farmers and ranchers when Congress passed the 1902 Reclamation Act. Construction began in 1906 and was completed in 1915.

Years later, the Strawberry Water Users Association,

made up of area farmers and ranchers, signed a contract with the federal government guaranteeing to repay construction costs.

The reservoir's 57,000 acres have been used for grazing and recreation since the agreement. The association paid off the debt to the federal government in 1974.

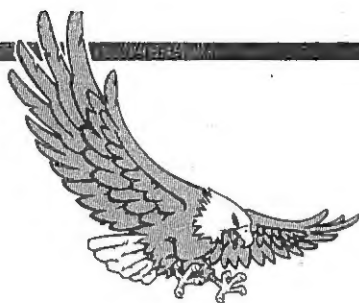
# Strawberry May Get

2-10-88  
Utah's senators have agreed to support Rep. Howard Nielson's bill which would give the U.S. Forest Service jurisdiction over the Strawberry Valley Project lands. The bill, a memorandum of understanding, outlining a management plan, was signed a week ago by representatives of those with an interest in the area.

According to Nielsen's aide, Cirtenden, a sportsmen's club has been meeting regularly about nine months with representatives of the Strawberry water users, the Bureau of Reclamation and the Forest Service. He said they have lined up what each group requires.

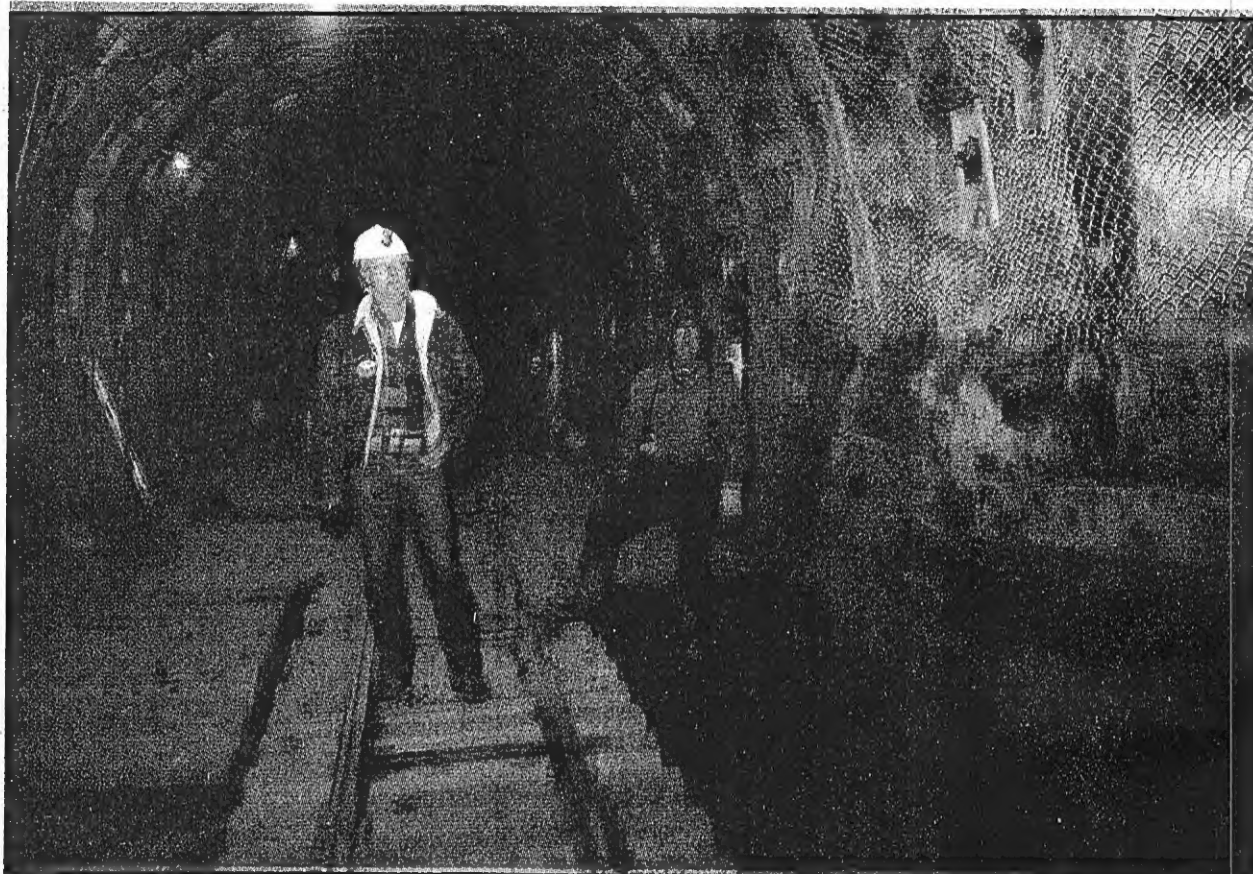
"A lot of it will take legislative support," he said. If the bill succeeds, all but about 90 acres will be purchased from the water users. The users will own the administrative site and some property they plan to construct on. The road and the rest will be owned by the Forest Service, he said.

The Strawberry area has been a source of dispute for decades. One question is how



# The Daily

115TH YEAR, NO. 218 PROVO, UTAH, MONDAY, APRIL 10, 1989



Herald Photo/Bonnie Ellis

Dennis Stegmief, of Springville, left, and Ellis Muir, Heber City, stand inside the tunnel under construction.

## Work underway on Syar Tunnel

By JOSEPHINE ZIMMERMAN  
Herald Staff Writer

Construction is underway on the 5.7-mile Syar Tunnel which conveys water from Strawberry Reservoir down through Diamond Fork, as part of the Central Utah Project.

Contractors are nearly 450 feet into the mountain in Ray's Valley, drilling an 8.5-foot diameter tunnel. The tunnel was started with a \$47 million federal appropriation through the Bureau of Reclamation.

The Syar Tunnel will replace the old Strawberry Tunnel, which has fallen into disrepair. The Strawberry Tunnel and original Strawberry Reservoir were built in the early 1900s as one of the first reclamation projects ever approved in the United States.

In recent years, Strawberry Reservoir has been expanded in size and is fed through a series of pipelines, tunnels and aqueducts from reservoirs in the Uintas that are part of the Central Utah Project.

Syar Tunnel is scheduled for completion in May, 1993. Morrison and Knudsen, Inc., with branch headquarters in Springville, has the contract.

When completed, it will be capable of carrying 600 cubic feet per second of water from Strawberry Reservoir.

The tunnel will provide a sharp verticle drop when it reaches this side of the mountain, which will allow for future construction of hydroelectric facilities, if additional power is needed.

Plans for a hydroelectric

generating system have been put on hold for now because of a current power glut.

Water conveyed through the Syar Tunnel will be transferred into Utah Lake and also south to provide supplementary water for Juab, Millard, Sanpete, Piute, Sevier and Garfield counties.

Earlier plans called for transfer of the water south through a series of pipelines, pumps and canals. Current plans call for a gravity flow pipeline from Diamond Fork south.



# Sheep Creek Road

8-24-88

Work on the Sheep Creek road at Spanish Fork Ranger District is nearing completion. Changes in work scheduling have put the project ahead of schedule; however, these changes require the road remaining closed Aug. 15 through Aug. 26.

Forest visitors, especially motorists, are asked to use the Hellebrand Crossing — Rays Valley route to access the "Watershed and Strawberry Ridge." While driving on the paved portion of the road, be very cautious of the pavement edges, and travel at reduced speeds.

During the Sheep Creek road closure, Spanish Fork Canyon to the north with Strawberry Ridge is closed to protect forest resources. The asphalt layer on this portion of road can be very slippery when it occurs. It is also susceptible

to damage until the final layer is completed.

Although this closure may cause an inconvenience to some visitors over the weekend, it will save taxpayer dollars and allow completion of the road work weeks ahead of schedule. After Aug. 26, the Sheep Creek road will be open for travel on weekdays as well as weekends.

Forest visitors will find other forest system routes open to travel. Visitors are encouraged to obtain free travel maps at forest offices. Beginning this year, travel is permitted only on routes designated "open." These routes are identified by route markers on the road and by the travel map. All other routes should be considered closed — travel on them can result in a citation. If you have any questions, contact your local forest office.

Syar Tunnel  
Location in Sheep Creek off  
Spanish Fork Canyon  
Contractor: Morrison-Knudsen  
Who's working there from Hellebrand  
Ray L. Kinsey

## Fisherman Drowns at Strawberry

10-19-88

A 75 year old man drowned Oct. 11 when the boat he was in overturned on Strawberry Reservoir.

Joseph Overman's death was ruled an accidental drowning by the medical examiner. He was fishing with William Williams 65, also of Orem, when one of them stood up and their boat capsized, according to Wasatch County Sheriff Edd Thacker.

Both men clung to seat cushions that were also flotation devices and Mr. Williams was rescued by people in a nearby boat, according to Sheriff Thacker. However, by the time they got to Mr. Overman, he had died, still supported by the seat cushion.

## Forest Service to get Strawberry land

10-19-88

A one-year extension of financing for the Central Utah Project, providing \$45 million to complete the Jordanelle Dam, and the canals and underground systems to deliver water to Salt Lake County, is on President Reagan's desk to be signed.

The bill does not address environmental and recreational aspects of the project.

The bill began in committee as a \$754 million request, trimmed to \$420 million before it went to the House of Representatives, Rep. Wayne Owens explained last week. When some of Utah's neighbors raised concerns about water rights to Upper Colorado River water, "in essence we gave that up and settled for a \$5 million authorization," he

said.

When it went to the Senate, Sen. Jake Garn added language that conveyed 56,000 acres of land at Strawberry to the Forest Service and gave \$15 million to the water users. Another \$3 million was added for repairs to the Strawberry acreage, Rep. Owens said.

Back at the House, three amendments, not related to Utah, were added. The Senate then passed the bill with two of them: to expand the boundaries of the John Muir Historic Site in California, and to prohibit expansion of dams in Yosemite National Park, Owens said.

The bill, with the two amendments, then passed the House last week.

# STRAWBERRY:

8-21-90

(Continued from Page A1)

has not been approved for human consumption by the Food and Drug Administration. Consequently fish pick-up is not permitted by people during the reservoir treatment," says Remund.

During the past few years, chub and sucker populations have escalated, seriously threatening remaining game fish such as rainbow and cutthroat trout. This decline in trout and increase in rough fish has almost destroyed sport fishing in what was once Utah's fishing hot spot.

After the treatment and habitat restoration work is complete in October, 1.5 million bear lake cutthroat and kokanee salmon will be stocked in the waters. These species were selected because they compete well with chubs and suckers should they ever return.

Steve Phillips, information and education officer for the State Division of Wildlife Resources, said Strawberry was last treated in 1961 and was followed by two decades of superb fishing. Recent gill net studies revealed 92 percent of the fish in Strawberry are chubs, 3 percent are suckers and only 5 percent are the desired trout. Wildlife officials determined the only effective way to turn things around was to start over by eliminating all the fish.

Treatment has been considered since 1983 for the reservoir, but delayed because of its massive size, the near \$3 million cost and avail-

bility of the rotenone.

The project is now possible because the pieces fell together.

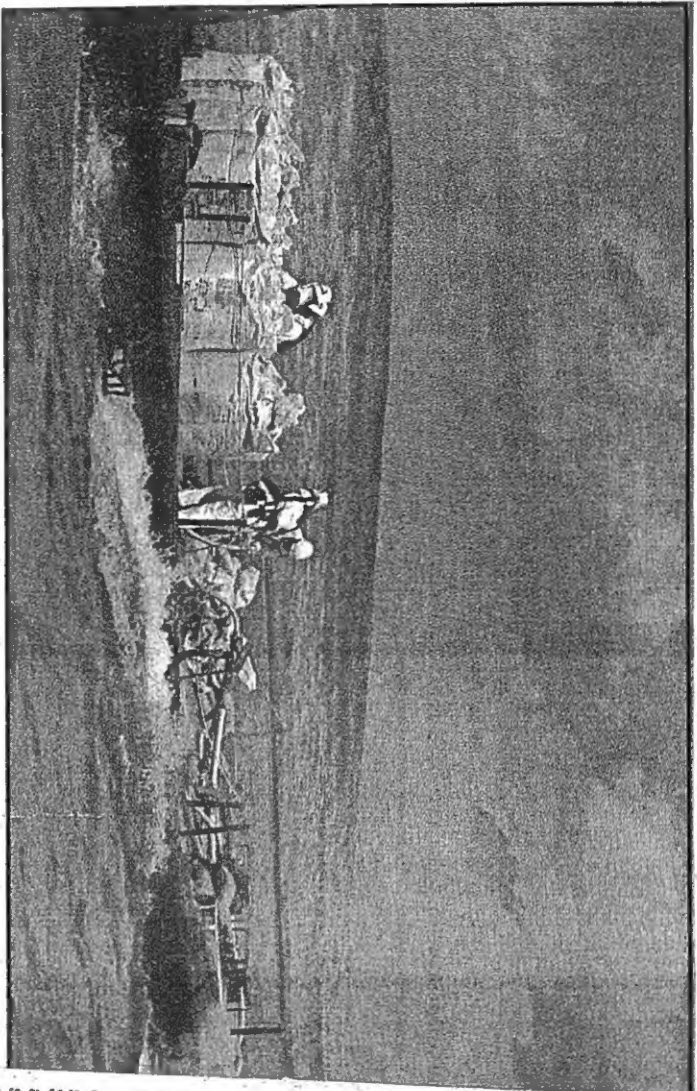
Phillips said the cost of the project is high, but if the project is successful and recreational users return to Strawberry in good numbers, the payoff may come in as short of time as five years. He said Strawberry has a significant economic value to Utah.

The tributaries draining into Strawberry are continuing to receive the chemical treatment through Friday. A total of 180 miles of streams are being sprayed, or saturated with rotenone by drip stations placed every mile on streams. Ground crews fitted with backpack sprayers treat standing water, seeps and slow moving drainages.

Water flowing from the Strawberry Valley is being detoxified with potassium permanganate which neutralizes the rotenone. This will protect fish in areas outside the Strawberry Valley.

Brent McBeth, Forest Service recreation and lands branch chief, said rehabilitation projects are preparing the streams for critical natural spawning. Cattle have been removed for the first time in more than 100 years, and vegetation along stream banks is returning.

"We are planting willows, stabilizing stream banks with junipers, and importing spawning gravel as part of the rehabilitation process. When completed, we're estimating natural spawning will produce 8 million young fish each year.



A team spreads rotenone across the choppy waters of Strawberry Reservoir Monday from a National Guard

## Strawberry treatment kills chubs, suckers

By JOHN BEST  
Herald Correspondent  
STRAWBERRY RESERVOIR  
— Thousands of dead chubs and suckers are floating to the shores of Strawberry Reservoir. evi-

ten choppy waters of Strawberry. When completed, an estimated 5,000 tons of fish will be killed in the reservoir.

A large portion of the treatment work is being done by two huge

utes. The barges distribute the powder chemical by mixing it with lake water in pumps that spray the mixture over the reservoir. In the shallow water where the large barges cannot easily

follow the courses of chemical canals began at the reservoir.